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February 28, 2018

POSTAL REGULATORY

COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman
Commissioners Nanci Langley and Mark Acton
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners,

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates estimated to reach seven percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, as this change will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both our organization and our constituents.

As a non-profit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising and we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year. Thus, if postage increases as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

Our mission is to promote the vitality of the communities of faith we serve across the United States, providing essential religious services to them and working to respond to the needs of our neighbors of all races, ethnicities, and religious affiliations, or none. Here in our Cleveland headquarters, we serve the homeless who live on city streets and under bridges and overpasses, as well as the needy elderly in nearby senior residences who survive on fixed incomes, bringing hot meals and compassion to them.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have a detrimental effect on our mission and the people we serve. Please reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,



Scott R. Gongos
Director of Mission Advancement